



PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 030627

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Ramon Eritja et al. )  
)  
Serial No.: 10/055,732 )  
)  
Filing Date: January 22, 2002 )  
)  
Entitled: Compositions and Methods )  
of Synthesis and Use of Novel )  
Nucleic Acid Structures )

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219  
March 1, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants submit the documents listed on the attached PTO/SB/08b, which they believe may be pertinent to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56. This Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such. Applicant hereby requests that the Examiner review and make an independent evaluation of the art.

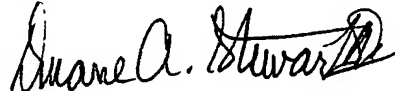
This statement is made solely for the purpose of compliance with the above-identified rules and is not intended to be a substitute for an independent search by the Examiner and no representation of any such nature is made or intended by this statement. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

In accordance with Section 1.97(b)(3), this statement is being submitted before the mailing of the first Office Action on the merits regarding this Application.

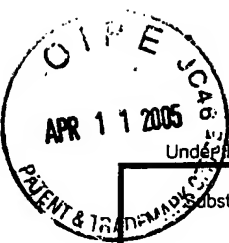
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Also enclosed is a return postcard. Please date stamp and mail the postcard to acknowledge receipt of the above-mentioned correspondence.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Duane A. Stewart III". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "D" and "S".

Duane A. Stewart III  
Reg. No. 54,468  
BUCHANAN INGERSOLL PC  
One Oxford Centre, 20th Floor  
301 Grant Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219



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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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|       |   |    |   |                        |                  |
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| Sheet | 1 | of | 2 | Application Number     | 10/055732        |
|       |   |    |   | Filing Date            | January 22, 2002 |
|       |   |    |   | First Named Inventor   | Ramon Eritja     |
|       |   |    |   | Art Unit               | 1635             |
|       |   |    |   | Examiner Name          | Janet L. Epps    |
|       |   |    |   | Attorney Docket Number | 030627           |

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

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|--------------------|-----------------------|---|----------------|
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**Examiner  
Signature****Date  
Considered**

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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|       |   |    |   |                        |                  |
|-------|---|----|---|------------------------|------------------|
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|       |   |    |   | Filing Date            | January 22, 2002 |
|       |   |    |   | First Named Inventor   | Ramon Eritja     |
|       |   |    |   | Art Unit               | 1635             |
|       |   |    |   | Examiner Name          | Janet L. Epps    |
|       |   |    |   | Attorney Docket Number | 030627           |

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|--------------------|-----------------------|---|----------------|
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|                    |                       |   |                |

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